Revised Listing of Claims:

1. (withdrawn): A magnetic media hard disk, comprising:

a substrate;

a magnetic layer;

at least one underlayer being disposed between said substrate and said magnetic layer;

an overcoat layer being disposed above said magnetic layer, said overcoat layer being comprised of diamond-like carbon (DLC), and wherein carbon atoms of said DLC layer are generally implanted into said magnetic layer to a depth of less than approximately 10 Å, and wherein the density of said overcoat layer is between approximately 2.0 g/cm^3 and approximately 2.9 g/cm^3.

2. (withdrawn): A magnetic disk as described in claim 1 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is from approximately 25 Å to approximately 100 Å.

3. (withdrawn): A magnetic disk as described in claim 1 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is from approximately 25 Å to approximately 60 Å.

4. (withdrawn): A magnetic disk as described in claim 1 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is approximately 35 Å.

5. (withdrawn): A magnetic disk as described in claim 1 wherein said overcoat layer includes nitrogen.

6. (withdrawn): A magnetic disk as described in claim 5 wherein said overcoat layer includes nitrogen in the range of approximately 2 at. % to approximately 20 at. %.

7. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive, comprising:

at least one magnetic media hard disk being adapted for rotary motion upon a disk drive motor spindle;

at least one slider device having a slider body portion being adapted to fly over said magnetic media hard disk;

a magnetic head being formed on said slider body for writing data to said magnetic media hard disk and reading data from said magnetic media hard disk;

said magnetic media hard disk, including:

a substrate;

a magnetic layer;

at least one underlayer being disposed between said substrate and said magnetic layer;

an overcoat layer being disposed above said magnetic layer, said overcoat layer being comprised of diamond-like carbon (DLC), and wherein carbon atoms of said DLC layer are generally implanted into said magnetic layer to a depth of less than approximately 10 Å, and wherein the density of said overcoat layer is between approximately 2.0 g/cm^3 and approximately 2.9 g/cm^3.

8. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive as described in claim 7 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is from approximately 25 Å to approximately 100 Å.

9. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive as described in claim 7 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is from approximately 25 Å to approximately 60 Å.

10. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive as described in claim 7 wherein the thickness of said overcoat layer is approximately 35 Å.

11. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive as described in claim 7 wherein said overcoat layer includes nitrogen.

12. (withdrawn): A hard disk drive as described in claim 11 wherein said overcoat layer includes nitrogen in the range of approximately 2 at. % to approximately 20 at. %.

13. (currently amended): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk comprising:

fabricating a magnetic media layer upon a surface material of a substrate;

fabricating a diamond-like carbon (DLC) layer upon said magnetic layer by:

fabricating an initial thickness portion of said DLC layer upon said magnetic layer utilizing a relatively low carbon ion ~~carbon~~ beam energy of less than approximately 20 eV;

fabricating at least one ~~a~~ subsequent thickness portion of said DLC layer upon said initial thickness portion of said DLC layer utilizing at least one subsequent carbon ion beam energy of ~~greater than~~ at least approximately 50 eV; and

wherein each said subsequent carbon ion beam energy is greater than a prior carbon ion beam energy, and wherein carbon ions from said subsequent carbon ion beams do not penetrate into said magnetic media layer.

14. (original): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 13 wherein said relatively low carbon ion beam energy is approximately 10 eV to approximately 20 eV.

15. (currently amended): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 14 wherein a carbon ion beam energy of one said subsequent carbon ion ~~beam energy~~ beams is approximately 100 eV.

16. (currently amended): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 13, including fabricating one said subsequent thickness portion, identified here as an intermediate thickness portion, of said DLC layer between said initial thickness portion, and another said subsequent thickness portion, wherein said intermediate thickness portion is fabricated utilizing a relatively mid-range carbon ion beam energy between said relatively low carbon ion beam energy and ~~said subsequent~~ a carbon ion beam energy of said another subsequent thickness portion.

17. (previously presented): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 16 wherein said mid-range carbon ion beam energy is approximately 50 eV.

18. (currently amended): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 17 wherein said DLC layer has a thickness of approximately 10 Å following the deposition of said initial thickness portion, and said DLC layer has a thickness of approximately 19 Å following the deposition of said intermediate thickness portion, and said DLC layer has a

final thickness of approximately 25 Å following the deposition of said another subsequent thickness portion.

19. (currently amended): A ~~method~~ process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 18 wherein said DLC layer is formed with a density of approximately 2.0 g/cm^3 to approximately 2.9 g/cm^3.

20. (currently amended): A ~~method~~ process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 13 wherein nitrogen ion species are deposited along with said carbon ion species within said subsequent thickness portion.

21. (original): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 20 wherein said nitrogen species are deposited in a range of approximately 2 at. % to approximately 20 at. %.

22. (currently amended): A method for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk comprising:

fabricating a magnetic material layer upon a material surface of a substrate;

fabricating a diamond-like carbon (DLC) layer upon said magnetic layer, wherein said DLC layer is fabricated by:

depositing carbon ion species upon said magnetic layer utilizing a relatively low carbon ion beam energy level of from approximately 10 eV to approximately 20 eV, to deposit an initial thickness portion of said DLC layer;

subsequently increasing the energy level of said carbon ion beam as the thickness of said DLC layer increases due to the deposition of said carbon ion species within said DLC

layer, such that a portion of the carbon ion beam species of said increased energy level carbon ion beam become implanted within said initial thickness portion of said DLC layer, and such that substantially none of said carbon ion beam species of said increased energy level carbon ion beam become implanted within said magnetic material layer, and such that another portion of said carbon ion beam species of said increased energy level carbon ion beam become deposited on top of said initial thickness portion of said DLC layer.

23. (original): A method for fabricating a magnetic media disk as described in claim 22 wherein said carbon ion beam energy level is varied smoothly with time.

24. (original): A method for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 22 wherein said carbon ion beam energy level varies as a step function with time.

25. (previously presented) A method for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 23 wherein nitrogen ion species are implanted along with said carbon ion species within said DLC layer thickness.

26. (original): A method for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 25 wherein said nitrogen ion species are included within said DLC layer in a range of approximately 2 at. % to approximately 20 at. %.

27. (previously presented): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk, comprising:

fabricating a magnetic media layer upon a surface material of a substrate;

fabricating a diamond-like carbon (DLC) layer including carbon ion species upon said magnetic layer, by:

fabricating an initial thickness portion of said DLC layer upon said magnetic layer utilizing a relatively low ion carbon beam energy of from approximately 10 eV to approximately 20 eV;

fabricating a subsequent thickness portion of said DLC layer upon said initial thickness portion of said DLC layer utilizing a higher carbon ion beam energy, wherein a portion of the carbon ion species of said subsequent thickness portion penetrates into said initial thickness portion and not into said magnetic media layer, and another portion of said carbon ion species of said subsequent layer are disposed on top of said initial thickness portion.

28. (previously presented): A process for fabricating a magnetic media hard disk as described in claim 27 including:

fabricating a further thickness portion of said DLC layer upon said subsequent thickness portion of said DLC layer utilizing a higher carbon ion beam energy, wherein a portion of the carbon ion species of said further thickness portion penetrate into said subsequent thickness portion and into said initial thickness portion, and not into said magnetic media layer, and wherein another portion of said carbon ion species of said further thickness layer are disposed on top of said subsequent thickness portion.

29. (previously presented): A process for fabricating a magnetic media heard disk as described in claim 27 wherein said carbon ion beam energy of said subsequent thickness portion is approximately 50 eV and wherein said carbon ion beam energy of said further thickness portion is approximately 100 eV.